

MEMORIAL

OF

THE YEARLY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS IN
NEW ENGLAND,

PRAYING

That Texas may not be annexed to the United States.

FEBRUARY 22, 1845.

Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

To the Senate of the United States:

The memorial of the representatives of the Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends in New England respectfully sheweth :

That we have viewed with deep solicitude the proposition now pending before Congress, and which has already passed the House of Representatives, for the annexation of Texas to the United States ; and, in the discharge of what we believe to be our religious duty, we are induced respectfully, but most earnestly, to remonstrate with you against this measure.

We are painfully impressed with a solemn conviction that the consummation of this proposition will not fail to involve our beloved country in consequences of momentous import.

You are well aware that by the Society of Friends, and by many others of your constituents, the holding of our fellow-men in bondage is deemed an evil of great magnitude, and that they regard any measure that may extend and perpetuate it as wholly at variance with the laws of humanity, and inconsistent with the precepts of the Christian religion. That the annexation of Texas is calculated to produce this effect, we cannot doubt ; and we are also fearfully apprehensive that it may involve us in the multiplied evils and miseries of war, and unfavorably affect the harmony of the Union.

It is to the Senate of the United States that the eyes of many in this nation are now turned, with the most anxious solicitude as to the great conservative power which, under Providence, may avert those calamities that now threaten our country ; and we earnestly crave that you may *fearlessly do right*, and refuse to sanction any measure that shall tend to perpetuate slavery, or by any probability involve us in the horrors of war.

By faithfully interposing the constitutional shield of your authority, and

thus preventing the evils to which we have referred, we are fully assured that you will receive the smiles of Him who regardeth the cries of the poor and the sighs of the needy, and that the blessing of thousands will rest upon you.

Signed on behalf and by direction of a meeting of the representatives aforesaid, held at Providence, Rhode Island, the 5th of 2d month, 1845.

SAMUEL BOYD TOBEY, *Clerk.*